

## Message Text

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62

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01

/139 W

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R 272238Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2388

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3105

POUCHED INFO ALL CONSULAR POSTS IN CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR CA ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY AND AGRICULTURE BI-WEEKLY REPORT

PASS AGRICULTURE D.L. HUME, FAS

REF: FASTO CIRCULAR 296

MINAGR EUGENE T. WHELAN DECEMBER 11 DISCUSSED ENERGY-FERTILIZER SITUATION IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA SPEECH. STATED FERTILIZER PRICES IN WESTERN CANADA UP TEN PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR WITH ONE COMPANY PREDICTING ANOTHER TEN PERCENT BY NEXT YEAR. INCREASE IN NATURAL GAS PRICES IN PRODUCTION OF NITROGEN FERTILIZER INDICATED AS PARTICULARLY WORRISOME. ON DECEMBER 1 NATURAL GAS PRICES INCREASED SEVEN CENTS PER THOUSAND CUBIC FEET, REPRESENTING THREE DOLLARS PER TON INCREASE IN AMMONIA COST FOR MAKING FERTILIZER, BRINGING CURRENT SELLING PRICE TO AROUND \$150 PER TON OR \$25 ABOVE LAST SPRING. ROCK PHOSPHATE PRICE IN SPRING 1972 WAS \$4 PER TON F.O.B., FLORIDA MIN SITE, NOW ROCK CONTRACTED FOR 1973-74 PRODUCTION AROUND \$12 PER TON, REPRESENTING UP TO \$13.60 PER TON PRICE RISE FOR PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZER. PHOS-  
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PHATIC FERTILIZERS NOW RUNNING \$20-\$30 PER TON. WHELAN

EXPECTS NO INTERRUPTION IN NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES FOR CNADIAN  
MANUFACTURERS OF NITROGEN FERTILIZERS. HE INDICATED THAT  
CANADIAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY INTENDS TO REDUCE EXPORTS OF  
NITROGEN AND PHOSPATIC MATERIALS BY ABOUT ONE QUARTER,  
BUT WILL INCREASE POTASH FERTILIZER EXPORTS BY ABOUT SAME  
PERCENTAGE WHELAN CONCLUDED THERE IS NO DOUBT FERTILIZER  
PRICES WILL BE AFFECTED BY COST OF RAW MATERIALS,BUT  
TRANSPORT IS THE MAJOR DETERMINING FACTOR IN SUPPLYING  
PARTICULAR FERTILIZERS TO ANY PARTICULAR LOCALITY.  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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